

PROCLAMATION

MLK Day and Unity Week 2021

WHEREAS, Dr. King was a champion for justice, for the voiceless, and for those who were refused access to the American Dream; and

WHEREAS, he was a preacher, teacher and racial justice organizer who challenged us to make freedom a reality for all people; and

WHEREAS, the annual observance of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. day has never been more meaningful than the year following George Floyd's murder and Black women delivering Joe Biden to the White House; and

WHEREAS, we are compelled to examine our collective failure to address institutional racism as a city and institution and its impact on the lives of people of color/BIPOC/Black and brown Americans;

WHEREAS, each year, the holiday has typically brought together community members across Seattle to celebrate the life, legacy and visions for a more racially equitable and just society of the incomparable Dr. King; and

WHEREAS, we will make painful personal sacrifices and decisions intended to keep our friends, family, neighbors, and community safe by staying home;

WHEREAS, the institution is replete with racism and a disregard for people who don't look like them in leadership ...

WHEREAS, we will also recognize local community leaders on the cutting edge of anti-racist movements and activism and the Black and Brown public servants particularly: Black women, the founding life blood of the City's Race and Social Justice body of work.

WHEREAS, we are committed to racial equity, diversity, and inclusion while also holding ourselves accountable and continuing to do the work required to address systemic racism and economic injustice when and where it exists; and

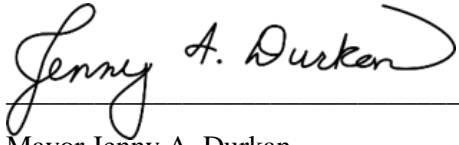
WHEREAS, Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Day is an occasion for each branch of government to carry on the tradition and momentum of anti-racism movements and Seattle sits in the only US county to bear his name and we find it our solemn duty to maintain a fierce commitment to undoing racism and dismantling white supremacy; and

WHEREAS, the City of Seattle is proud to observe/remember Dr. King's legacy even in this virtual environment; and

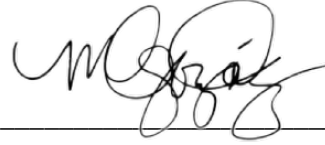
NOW, THEREFORE, THE MAYOR AND THE SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL PROCLAIM

Tuesday, January 19, 2021

MLK Day and Unity Week 2021



Mayor Jenny A. Durkan



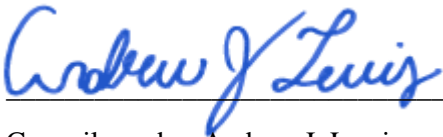
Council President M. Lorena González



Councilmember Lisa Herbold



Councilmember Debora Juarez



Councilmember Andrew J. Lewis



Councilmember Tammy J. Morales



Councilmember Teresa Mosqueda



Councilmember Alex Pedersen



Councilmember Kshama Sawant



Councilmember Dan Strauss